


CONFINTEA VI Mid-Term Review 2017

24-26/10/2017
Suwon/Republic of Korea



UNESCO CHAIR IN YOUTH AND ADULT EDUCATION



Adult Education Centers - Key Structures for Lifelong Learning and Development



Break-out session/Side Event

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Concept

- Community as a place to recognise and channel certain potentially emancipatory social dynamics and policies: popular education as a central reference.
- Community learning centres or Adult Education Centres as an antidote to the neoliberal tendency to fragment and to individualise. Stimulate the sense of community and collective action to face collective challenges.
- Adult education Centres incorporate the spirit of lifelong learning and education.
- Centres whose concern is with the relation between life and learning and the search for well-being, quality of life.
- Education for transformation and inclusion: education for life and in life for good living.



Examples from Latin America

- Centres of Alternative and Special Education in Bolívia
- Argentina - CENS Centro Educativo de Nivel Secundário - finishing school and training for work.
- PROMAJOVEN in Mexico for young girls between 12 and 18 to finish basic education.
- CONEVyT - National Council for life and work (Mexico) - study and qualification for work
- Voces Mesoamericanas y Acción con Pueblos Migrantes A.C. directed at indigenous women in migratory contexts. To dream and construct a better life as women, Indians and migrants.



Benefits and challenges

- Easy access and low cost, demand driven, tailor made with active participation of learners in decision making and shaping of the institution (**Uwe Gartenschlaeger**)
- Majority of community education centres are characterised by the precarious conditions of work (**Carmen Campero**)
- Democratic and participative education based on a positive understanding of inclusion.
- Adult Education is still strongly associated with compensatory schooling and for this reason generally takes place in schools whose principle function is to educate children.
- Perhaps only Bolívia of all the countries in LA has a network of Centres of Alternative and Special Education as part of policy incorporated in legislation and with financial support.



Role in relation to SDG4 and Education 2030 Agenda

- SDG4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning
- Potential of Adult Education Centres/Community Learning Centres for promoting a new vision of development and a new relationship with nature: "The development of an integral formation which promotes the strengthening of identity, affectivity, spirituality and subjectivity of people, families and communities, as well as life in harmony with Mother Earth and in community between all human beings."
- Popular education and Buen Vivir as important references for a renewed vision of YALE and LLE.



Thank you for your attention

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